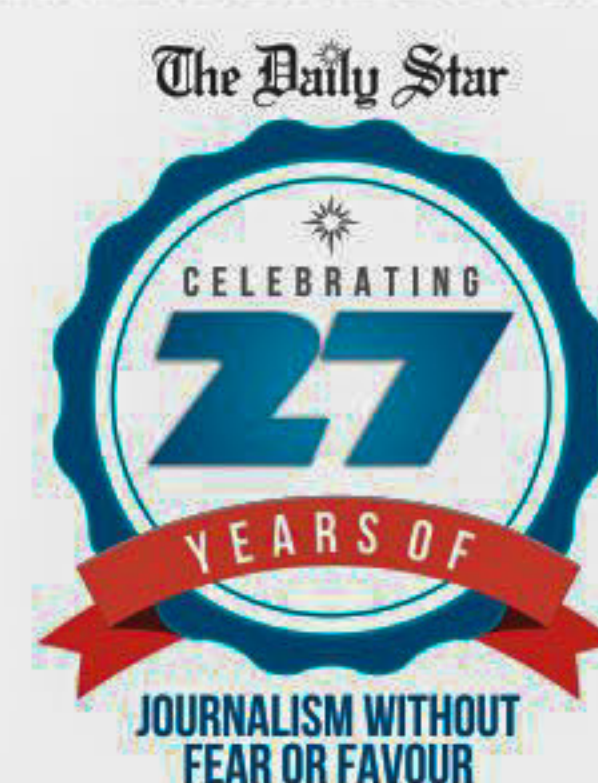


CHANGES THAT MAKE US #NOWINLIFESTYLE



DHAKA SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 24, 2018
FALGUN 12, 1424 BS

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(ghotok) costs. The likes of Borbodhu or Bibahabd are making the best use of their ever-growing online candidate database. Typical membership can cost from Tk 10,000 to Tk 1 lakh depending on membership period and tier. For a successful match, another Tk 50,000 to Tk 5 lakh can be spent. Coming to the engagement and onward, the timeline of events includes *Ai Buro Bhat*, *Gaye Holud*, *Mehendi*, *Niqah* (for Muslim weddings) and end with the *biye* and *Boubhaat*. A substantial part of the initial planning rests on which event will be taken care of by which side. **CALLING IN EVENT PLANNERS** As there are so many events, getting a wedding planner is the smart thing to do. They take care of everything from

The making of a great wedding

venue selection to arranging vehicles right down to decorating for the bridal room. Sygmaz-sketching magical moments, Blitz, Enchanted Events and Prints are few of the favoured names on the scene.

While the standard charges vary from Tk 35,000 to Tk 5.5 lakh, on average, the total cost will depend on how many events are covered and the extent of things taken care of by the event managers.

VENUE BOOKING

Booking the venue often has to be done at least a year prior. While five-star hotels and resorts accommodate such events with a four-month pre-booking, regular venues often can not.

For a guest range within a 1000 or less, Pan Pacific Sonargaon, or Radisson Blu Dhaka can be considered. Prices will fall in the Tk 2 lakh to Tk 7 lakh range. Other large capacity high end venues like Army Golf Garden, Officer's Club, and Dhaka Club charge between Tk 2 lakh and Tk 5 lakh. These are *only* the venue rents. Every venue has its specific requirements in décor and catering.

JEWELLERY AND WEDDING WEAR

Gold jewellery takes up a huge chunk of expenses. Prices vary widely depending on *bhori* (11.7g), carat, and design. Local established jewellers like Amin Jewellers offer necklace and earrings from Tk 2.5

lakh to Tk 6 lakh, with additional accessories of bangles, *tiklis* and other elements, the total can reach Tk 5 lakh to Tk 20 lakh or more.

The expense finally depends on how much the families are willing to spend as gold is considered an asset. Those seeking trendier designs, including diamond and platinum, opt to buy their sets from India, Pakistan or Dubai, which can reach over Tk 15 lakh.

Another significant part of the budget is spent on the bride and the groom's clothes, which include wedding day wear plus a whole array of clothes for different events. Saris from Mirpur Benarashi Palli or Jamdanis from Narayanganj have

taken the back seat lately as Indian designer wear is getting more attention. It is the same for grooms as they are decked in sherwanis or suits.

Sabyasachi, Manyavar, and Manish Malhotra are among the many designers that are now the top choices in the wedding season, and prices can range from Tk 1 lakh to Tk 6 lakh for the brides and Tk 70,000 to Tk 4 lakh for the grooms.

Local designers like Farhana Zahedi, Sarah Karim, Rina Latif, and Sahar Rahman are some of the top names, and offer customised bridal wears; prices range from Tk 65,000 to Tk 2 lakh. Zurhem, Dapper Bespoke

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PHOTO: LS ARCHIVE

WITHOUT EDUCATION,
YOUR CHILDREN CAN NEVER REALLY
MEET THE CHALLENGES THEY WILL FACE.
SO IT'S VERY IMPORTANT TO GIVE CHILDREN
EDUCATION AND EXPLAIN THAT THEY
SHOULD PLAY A ROLE FOR THEIR COUNTRY.

Nelson Mandela

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